

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the originally filed Abstract with the Substitute Abstract set forth at the end of this response. Please note that this abstract is drafted to remove the error noted in paragraph #3 of this Office Action and to reduce the number of words below 150.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace specification with the Substitute Specification submitted with this response. This substitute specification has been amended to include the headings required by the Examiner and to correct other minor informalities. A redline specification is also submitted which faithfully depicts all of the corrections which have been made in the substitute specification. No new matter is introduced.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claims 1-38 with the new versions shown on the following sheets. Please also add new claims 39 - 44.

*In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii), marked-up version(s) of the amended claim(s) are provided on separate sheet(s) at the end of this response under the heading of Marked-up Versions of Amended Claims.

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1. (Once amended) A pulley comprising: a pulley body which has a rotationally symmetrical outer circumferential surface and a pulley hub, and having a tire which sits on the outer circumferential surface and has at least one radially outer and one radially inner ring and also a reinforcing ring, the reinforcing ring being made of a material which is rigid relative to the radially inner and the radially outer rings, and which distributes the rope load essentially uniformly over the inner ring, the reinforcing ring having a diameter which is smaller than the outside diameter of the radially outer ring, the radially inner ring being made of an elastomer, the radially outer ring being made of an elastomer or a plastic, and the radially outer ring having a greater Shore hardness than the radially inner ring.

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2. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pulley body has two lateral flanks, between which the outer circumferential surface of the pulley body extends, and into which the outer circumferential surface of the pulley body merges.

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C2

3. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one of the lateral flanks is flat or frustoconical, and in that a flange disk, which projects radially outward beyond the outer circumferential surface of the pulley body, is detachably fastened to at least one of the lateral flanks.

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cont

4. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the width of the outer circumferential surface of pulley body corresponds to the width of the radially inner and the radially outer rings.

5. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the radially inner and the radially outer rings are approximately the same width.

DLA
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6. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the radially outer ring has an outer circumferential surface which is a surface of rotation and which is concentric to the pulley hub in the unloaded state.

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7. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer circumferential surface of the radially outer ring contains a rope groove.

8. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring is embedded in the radially outer or the radially inner ring.

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9. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring is fitted in between the radially outer ^{and} the radially inner ring.

10. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring is a plastic molding.

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11. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring is a sheet-metal formed part.

12. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring is a forging.

DLA
cont

13. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring is a casting.

14. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring has an outer circumferential surface which is designed in such a way that the radially outer ring has an approximately constant thickness as viewed over its width.

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15. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring has an inner circumferential surface which is designed in such a way that the radially inner ring has an approximately constant thickness as viewed over its width.

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16. (Once amended) A pulley comprising:

a pulley body which has a rotationally symmetrical outer circumferential surface and a pulley hub, and having a tire which sits on the outer circumferential surface and has at least one radially outer and one radially inner ring and also a reinforcing ring, the reinforcing ring being made of a material which is rigid relative to the radially inner and the radially outer rings, the reinforcing ring having a diameter which is smaller than the outside diameter of the radially outer ring, the radially inner ring being made of an elastomer, the radially outer ring being made of an elastomer or a plastic, and the radially outer ring having a greater Shore hardness than the radially inner ring,

wherein the reinforcing ring consists of two parts which are joined together along a radial plane and are fastened to one another.

17. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 16, wherein the two parts of the reinforcing ring bear directly against one another.

18. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 16, wherein the two parts of the reinforcing ring are connected to one another while forming at least one axial intermediate space.

19. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring contains blind openings which lead from the lateral flank into the reinforcing ring.

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20. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring contains slots which run in the circumferential direction and lead from the lateral flanks into the reinforcing ring.

21. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least either the radially outer or the radially inner ring is connected to the reinforcing ring in a positive-locking manner.

22. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the radially inner ring is recessed at its lateral flanks at least in sections relative to the surfaces defined by the lateral flanks of the pulley body.

23. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the radially inner ring contains a plurality of through-openings, which run in the axial direction and are distributed equidistantly along the circumference.

24. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the radially inner ring has little internal damping.

25. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 2, wherein the distance between the lateral flanks of the radially outer ring is equal to the clearance distance between the flange disk at this location.

26. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least the radially inner ring contains a textile reinforcement in the vicinity of its inner circumferential surface.

27. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein a clamping device is assigned to the tire, by means of which clamping device the tire can be radially pretensioned on the outer circumferential surface of the pulley body.

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28. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 27, wherein the clamping device has an annular, essentially rotationally symmetrical form with a radially inner and a radially outer surface.

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29. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 27, wherein the clamping device, relative to the radial direction, is fitted in between the radially inner ring and the outer circumferential surface of the pulley body.

30. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 27, wherein the clamping device, relative to the radial direction, is fitted in between the radially inner ring and the reinforcing ring.

31. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 27, wherein the clamping device, relative to the axial direction of the pulley body, is split into two annular parts.

32. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 30, wherein the radially inner ring, relative to the axial direction of the pulley body, is split into two parts, and in that in each case one part of the radially inner ring sits on the corresponding part of the clamping device.

33. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 27, wherein the clamping device bears an elastomeric coating on its radially inner surface, said elastomeric coating being cohesively connected to the clamping device.

34. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 33, wherein the elastomeric coating is made of the same material as the radially inner ring.

35. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 31, wherein each annular part of the clamping device has a frustoconical outer form and a frustoconical bore, the radial thickness at one axial end of each annular part being smaller

than at the other axial end, and in that a ring is obtained in the assembled state, which ring, relative to its axial extent, is constricted approximately in the center.

36. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 31, wherein the two annular parts are screwed together by means of screws.

37. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer circumferential surface of the pulley body forms a double cone, which has the largest diameter at the intersection between the two cones.

38. (Once amended) The pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer circumferential surface of the pulley body forms a cylindrical surface.

39. (New) The pulley as claimed in claim 10, wherein the reinforcing ring is fiber-reinforced.

40. (New) A pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring has a non-uniform cross-section and is thicker at the sides than in the middle.

41. (New) A pulley as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing ring has an indented cross-sectional profile.

42. (New) A pulley comprising:
a pulley body which has an outer circumferential surface; and
a tire which is disposed on the outer circumferential surface and which comprises:
an outer ring;
a separate inner ring; and
a reinforcing ring interposed between the outer ring and the inner ring, the reinforcing ring being made of a material which is rigid relative to the radially inner and the radially outer rings and which has at least one portion

DLT
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which is at least as thick as the radially outer ring, the radially inner ring being made of a first material, the radially outer ring being made of a second material having a greater Shore hardness than the material of the radially inner ring.

43. (New) A pulley as claimed in claim 42, wherein the reinforcing ring has a non-uniform cross-section and is thicker at the sides than in the middle.

44. (New) A pulley as claimed in claim 42, wherein the reinforcing ring has an indented cross-sectional profile.
